

FAIRHAVEN CHARTER COMMITTEE MINUTES

December 9, 2021

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK

MEMBERS PRESENT : Lillia Cabral-Bernard, Kyle Bueno, Morgan Dawicki, Robert Grindrod, Ronnie Medina , Cathy Melanson, Brendalee Smith, Marybeth Vargas

DEC 9 A 9:46
FAIRHAVEN,
MASS.

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Fairhaven TV

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bueno, chair at 6:30 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

There was a roll call of committee members.

Ms.Cabral-Bernard,Mr.Bueno,Mr.Dawicki,Mr.Grindrod,Mr.Medina, Ms.Melanson, Ms.Smith ,Ms.Vargas

Approval of minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from November 18 ,2021 was made by Ms.Melanson seconded by Mr.Medina , approved 8-0 unanimously by roll call vote

Public Comment

None

Discussion/Actions:

1. Charter Committee open seat update:Mr.Bueno received an update from Mr.Sylvia, Town Moderator. There are two applicants: one is a town meeting member , second is on a town board, both knowledgeable of town. Deadline for applicants is Dec. 10th.
2. Updater Town Organizational Chart: Ms.Melanson will be meeting with Ms.Graves and feels they should have it by next meeting. Ms. Smith offered assistance if needed.
3. Update on DOR Representative: Mr. Grindrod has put in calls and emails with no results. Response has been poor, Will continue to follow up and report next meeting.
4. Update on OML for Google Docs: Mr. Dawicki reports he has also not heard back. Will continue with follow up.
5. Discussion on draft of comparable communities : Mr.Cabral-Bernard felt the list could be shortened and had looked at the largest list under Open Town Meeting -Selectman-Manager . After review she found that four of these could be removed as they were least similar to Fairhaven. These included Athol ,Bedford, Bellingham and Webster. Discussion continued Mr. Grindrod wondered about Mashpee due to the tribal form of government also in town. Ms,.Cabral-Bernard felt it was similar to Fairhaven and unsure whether the tribal government had anything to do with their charter. All members

agreed to remove the four towns.

List of Communities

Open Town Meeting - Selectman - Manager

Acushnet

Mashpee

Oxford

Wareham

Cities: Mayor- Council -Manager

Amesbury

Easthampton

Weymouth

Representative Town Meeting - Selectman

Auburn

Council-Manager

Barnstable

Franklin

Watertown

Decided to take vote on list after holidays at next meeting

6. Discussion /vote on Annual Town Report statement:Mr. Bueno reviewed how this was drafted with Ms.Melanson.

Motion to approveAnnual Town Report by Ms.Melanson, seconded by Mr, Grindrod
.Roll Call vote , unanimously approved 8-0.

7. Discussion/vote on adopting wording for meeting packet format via Charter Committee section of town website. Mr. Bueno discussed the proposal , stating format would lead to full transparency on the town website allowing access to all materials etc.

MsVargas had questioned whether it would be secretaries responsibility to put info on this site and regarding the info having to be posted within 48 hours.

Discussion among members. Mr. Grindrod suggests we look at other small committees with no professional staff and look how they get info to the community.

Decided to table this until the next meeting after looking at other committees.

Ms.Smith offered to draft up a sample webpage that she worked with , which might work for the committee website.

Upcoming Events

Next Meeting: Thursday January 13,2022 at 6:30 PM

Other/New Business:

None

Review Action Items

1. Mr. Bueno to email Mr.Sylvia regarding candidate for committee
2. Everyone to look at small committees in town , random selections
3. Ms.Smith to do mock website
4. Ms. Melanson to work on organizational chart

Question/Comments

Mr.Bueno feels when we return we should define our goals and reassess if needed.Mr.Grindrod states when we attempt to create a charter we need to do interviewing of stakeholders,

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Ms.Melanson , seconded by Mr. Grindrod. Approved 8-0 unanimously by roll call vote.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM

Marybeth Vargas

Recording Secretary to Charter Committee